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the new books before the expiry of the five years' period fixed by the Government;

(*b*) if so, what the reasons adduced are for this change, whether the headmasters were consulted about the necessity for this change and whether the approval of the District Educational Officer was obtained before issuing the circular as required by the rules; and

(*c*) when the text-books were prescribed last?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information of the change of books referred to. The assumption that a change of text-books within five years of their introduction is not permissible is not correct. The existing rules are to the effect that there should normally be no change of books within two years of their introduction."

Alleged theft of cash from Omalur Police station, Salem district, and steps taken to detect the culprit.

*23 *Q.*—SRI RAO BAHADUR N. R. SAMIAPPA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 1,500 was stolen from the Omalur Police station, Salem district;

(*b*) if so, when and under what circumstances;

(*c*) what action has been taken for detecting the theft; and

(*d*) what are the names of the Sub-Inspector and Circle Inspector who were in that station when the amount was stolen and whether they are still in that station?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) *to* (*c*) The Sub-Inspector of the Omalur Police station cashed the pay cheque of Omalur Circle at 4-30 p.m. on the 7th July 1939. He was in the station till 8 p.m. disbursing cash and had disbursed about Rs. 780–12–5. He placed the rest of the money along with the permanent advance of the station in the cash chest in the station-house officer's room and, after locking the room, proceeded to an adjoining village on duty. During the night, the room was broken open and the cash chest with Rs. 1,158–8–7 was stolen. The case is under investigation.

" (*d*) The report of the Inspector-General of Police shows that everything possible is being done for the detection of the crime as well as the punishment of officials guilty of any neglect. The Government do not propose to start a new precedent of naming officials in the manner suggested. As

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regards the suggestion that the Inspector and Sub-Inspector may be transferred, it may possibly help the thieves if this is done, but the Inspector-General of Police knows his work."

SRI RAO BAHADUR N. R. SAMIAPPA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether anybody has been placed under suspension on this account?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I have answered the question under 'transfer.' I do not think that anybody has been placed under suspension, because, as I have already said, it will greatly help the thieves if the men who know the facts are moved from the place."

Measures, if any, for checking the evil arising from lotteries and prize competitions.

* 24 *Q.*—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to refer to the answers given to my questions Nos. 4 and 5 on the 15th August 1938 and to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have enquired and found the extent of evil arising from lotteries and prize competitions so great as to need legislation to check the evil; and

(*b*) if so, when a Bill will be brought before the Legislature for the purpose?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"(*a*) & (*b*) No enquiry was made in the matter; but the Government are aware that the evil exists. Necessary legislation will be undertaken as early as possible."

Alleged cancellation before the due date of the licence granted to the Venkatesa Touring Talkies, Tiruturaipundi.

* 25 *Q.*—SRI RAO BAHADUR N. R. SAMIAPPA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the District Magistrate of Tanjore cancelled the licence issued to the Venkatesa Touring Talkies, Tiruturaipundi, in the month of May 1939 even before the expiry of the period for which the licence was granted;

(*b*) what the reasons are for the cancellation of the licence;

(*c*) whether the licence was cancelled on receipt of any complaint;

(*d*) if so, who the complainant is and to whom the complaint was preferred;

(*e*) whether any enquiry was made to ascertain the truth or otherwise of the complaint;